

## Message Text

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20

ACTION NEA-09

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SY-04 IO-10 USSS-00 EB-07 FEA-01 COME-00

TRSE-00 OMB-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02 INR-07 L-02

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 /072 W

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O R 101137Z FEB 75

FM AMEMBASSY AMMAN

TO USIA WASHDC IMMEDIATE

INFO AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

AMCONSUL JERUSALEM

USMISSION GENEVA

SECSTATE WASHDC 3795

UNCLAS AMMAN 1029

USIA FOR IOP/M

GENEVA FOR MEPC DEL

EO 11652: N/A

TAGS: OVIP

SUBJECT: JORDANIAN MEDIA REACTION - SECRETARY'S MIDEAST TRIP

1. SUMMARY: LOCAL PAPERS PRINT MUTED BUT FRONT-PAGE ANNOUNCEMENTS THAT SECRETARY HAS BEGUN TRIP TO MIDDLE EAST, INCLUDING FIRST PUBLIC MENTION OF AQABA SITE. KUWAIT SOURCE CLAIMS MARCH VISIT BY SECRETARY TO GUL STATES. GOJ-SPONSORED EDITORIAL STRESSES CRUCIAL YET AMBIGUOUS ROLE PLAYED BY AMERICAN IN RESOLVING CRISIS, WHILE AS-SABAH DAILY SAYS STEP-BY-STEP APPROACH SHOULD BE SCRAPPED IN FAVOR OF GENEVA. END SUMMARY.

2. ALL JORDANIAN DAILIES FEB 10 PRINT FRONT-PAGE ARTICLES ON SECRETARY'S ARRIVAL IN TEL AVIV TODAY, ALTHOUGH HUSSEIN'S TRIP TO SWITZERLAND AND GOJ'S DECISION TO LOWER COMMODITY ANNOUNCEMENT THAT SECRETARY WILL ARRIVE IN AQABA NEXT FRIDAY. SECRETARY QUOTED IN INTERVIEW WITH "DUTCH RADIO UNCLASSIFIED

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STATION" AS EXPRESSING OPTIMISM; "HE HOPES TO LAY THE

GROUNDWORK FOR A NEW HARMONY BETWEEN EGYPT AND ISRAEL. HE CONFIRMED THAT THIS JOURNEY IS EXPLORATORY IN NATURE AND THAT HE WANTS THE LEADERS OF THE AREA TO DEFINE THEIR POSITIONS IN WRITING. HE WILL THEN RETURN TO WASHINGTON TO FORMULATE AN AMERICAN POSITION ON THE PROBLEM, AFTER WHICH HE WILL RETURN TO THE MIDDLE EAST." OFFICIAL SOURCE IN KUWAIT QUOTED AS SAYING THAT SECRETARY WILL VISIT KUWAIT, QATAR, BAHRAIN, THE UAE, AND OMAN IN MARCH.

3. EDITORIAL IN GOJ-SPONSORED AR-RAYY DISCUSSES "UNIQUE ROLE" PLAYED BY AMERICA IN THIS AREA OF WORLD "WHICH IS SEETHING WITH LOVE, HATRED, FEAR, SPECULATION, AND APPRECIATION FOR THE U.S. NEVER BEFORE IN HISTORY HAS A MAJOR POWER PLAYED SUCH A CONFLICTING ROLE." ARTICLE NOTES THAT ALTHOUGH ARABS HAVE EVERY REASONS TO OBJECT TO U.S. POLICIES IN MIDEAST, IN FACT THEY ENCOURAGE SECRETARY'S ROLE, "SINCE A TRUE MEDIATOR IS INTERESTED IN WELFARE OF ALL PARTIES." YET ISRAELIS, WHO SHOULD BASK IN AMERICA'S FRIENDSHIP, "ARE AWAITING KISSINGER WITH THE FEAR THAT ARAB OIL MIGHT BE MORE INFLUENTIAL THAN THE JEWISH VOTES OF NEW YORK."

4. AS-SABAH DISCUSSES RUMORED ISRAELI REQUEST FOR WRITTEN EGYPTIAN PLEDGE TO END STATE OF WAR IN EXCHANGE FOR SINAI OIL FIELDS. "DURING HIS VISIT, KISSINGER PRICES RATE LARGER HEADLINES. ARTICLES INCLUDE FIRST PUBLIC WILL DISCOVER THAT ISRAEL HAS PLANS FOR ESTABLISHING SETTLEMENTS IN ALL THE OCCUPIED AREAS AND TO EXPEL THE ARAB INHABITANTS FROM THESE LANDS. IN THE LIGHT OF THESE FACTS, ONE HAS TO ASK WHETHER KISSINGER'S EFFORTS AIM AT ACHIEVING PEACE OR AT ADVANCING ISRAELI DESIGNS. HE WILL FAIL IF HIS STEP-BY-STEP POLICY AIMS AT KEEPING EGYPT OUT OF THE BATTLE RATHER THAN PREVENTING ISRAEL FROM PURSUING ITS POLICY OF AGGRESSION. DURING HIS CURRENT TOUR, KISSINGER WILL FIND THE ARABS DETERMINED TO ACHIEVE A TOTAL PEACE SETTLEMENT...THIS MEANS THAT ISRAEL MUST ABANDON ITS (HOUSING) SETTLEMENT PROJECTS."

5. IN SEPARATE EDITORIAL, AS-SABAH ADDS, "WE ARE SURE THAT ON THIS TOUR HE WILL UNDERSTAND THAT THE STEP-BY-STEP POLICY IS USELESS AND THAT THERE IS NO OTHER WAY BUT THE GENEVA UNCLASSIFIED

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CONFERENCE."  
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**To:** USIA  
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